

**North Pacific Marine Radio Council**

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November 28, 2003

Ex parte Comments by North Pacific  
Marine Radio Council concerning  
DA-03-3585, and  
RM-10821

Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street S W  
TW-325  
Washington, D C 20554


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Please be advised that the North Pacific Marine Radio Council concurs with the NTIA petition, dated October 24, 2003, concerning the designation of frequencies 161 975 MHz, Channel 87B and 162 025 MHz, Channel 88B, exclusively for AIS use by both Federal Government and non-Federal Government users on a shared basis nationwide

In this area the US/Canadian Border runs through the shared waterways of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Haro Strait, Boundary Passage, and the Strait of Georgia Vessel Traffic Service management in these waterways is provided by the US/Canadian Cooperative Vessel Traffic Service There are sections of said waterways where the US/Canadian Border is in the Separation Zone of the IMO adopted Traffic Separation Scheme Industry Canada uses channels 87B and 88B and it is necessary that the US use these same frequencies for operation of an international unified AIS system in these waterways

We urge the Commission to amend 47 CFR 80 371(c) as requested by the NTIA petition Taking such action will increase the ability for vessels to safely transit this area, thereby increasing security, protecting the environment and increasing waterway and port efficiency

Sincerely,

  
George B Hall, President  
North Pacific Marine Radio Council

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Copies to  
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